



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE, RAYTOWN RESIDENTS SENTENCED IN EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that four co-defendants were sentenced in federal court today for participating in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. They are among 18 co-defendants from Eastern Jackson County who have been convicted for their role in the conspiracy.

* **Douglas W. Williams**, 50, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to 10 years in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 13, 2003, **Williams** pleaded guilty to his role in the methamphetamine conspiracy. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he conspired with others to manufacture and distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine between Oct. 1, 1999, and Feb. 25, 2003. Specifically, **Williams** admitted that he contributed to the conspiracy by distributing methamphetamine and by obtaining and providing precursor chemicals to others for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine.

* **William R. Sands**, 34, of Raytown, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to seven years and three months in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 13, 2003, **Sands** pleaded guilty to his role in the methamphetamine conspiracy. By pleading guilty, **Sands** admitted that he conspired with others to manufacture and distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine between Oct. 1, 1999, and Feb. 25, 2003. Specifically, **Sands** admitted that he was one of the co-defendants manufacturing methamphetamine.

* **Tammie L. Avelyn**, 42, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to five years in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 13, 2003, **Avelyn** pleaded guilty to her role in the methamphetamine conspiracy. By pleading guilty, she admitted that she conspired with others to manufacture and distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine between Oct. 1, 1999, and Feb. 25, 2003. Specifically, she admitted that it was her job to obtain pseudoephedrine pills for methamphetamine cooks.

* **Robin L. Green**, 36, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to two years and six months in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 15, 2003, **Green** pleaded guilty to her role in the methamphetamine conspiracy. By pleading guilty, she admitted that she knowingly aided in the distribution of methamphetamine between Feb. 7, 2003, and Feb. 13, 2003.

Williams, Sands, Avelyn and **Green** are among 18 co-defendants charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 25, 2003.

The other 14 co-defendants charged, who are all residents of Eastern Jackson County, Mo., have pleaded guilty to charges in the indictment and two also have been sentenced.

On Jan. 20, 2004, **Michael D. Sanders**, 43, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced to seven years in federal prison without parole. On July 23, 2003, **Sanders** pleaded guilty to attempting to manufacture methamphetamine. By pleading guilty, Graves said, **Sanders** admitted that he was operating a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory in two hotel rooms rented at the American Inn in Independence on Jan. 19, 2000.

On Jan. 20, 2004, **Edward D. Miller, Jr.**, 31, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced to three years and five months in federal prison without parole. On Aug. 12, 2003, **Miller** pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. **Miller** admitted that he was in possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute between Oct. 1, 1999, and Feb. 27, 2003. **Miller** obtained methamphetamine from clandestine methamphetamine laboratories run by several co-defendants, Graves said.

The other co-defendants who have pleaded and are awaiting sentencing hearings include: **Darcy E. Harris**, 39, of Stockton, Mo.; **Sean C. Postpichal**, 27, of Independence, Mo.; **Amber G. Watson**, 24, of Independence, Mo.; **Eric C. Koncher**, 38, of Blue Springs, Mo.; **Randall H. Off**, 45, of Oak Grove, Mo.; **Eric C. Hood**, 38, of Independence, Mo.; **Teresa S. Hood**, 41, of Independence, Mo.; **Tommy R. Smith**, 29, of Sibley, Mo.; **William L. Pennington**, 43, of Independence, Mo.; **Brian V. Coen**, 27, of Sugar Creek, Mo.; **Troy L. Goetz**, 35, of Independence, Mo.; and **David J. Hoerl, Jr.**, 39, of Raytown, Mo.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Independence, Mo., Police Department, the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department and the Kansas City Metropolitan Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
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